Measures for curbing corruption

4302. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any special measures to curb corruption in view of the arrest of some senior officials among the cadres of Indian Revenue Services;

(b) if so, what type of a system of reward and punishment has been considered;

(c) whether a system of objective criteria for transfers, postings and deputations has been considered; and

(d) whether Government are considering proposals for making officials senior to Deputy Commissioners eligible for Cash Rewards so that they are not lured by unfair money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government has taken several steps to check corruption, which include strengthening of the vigilance set up, closer monitoring by the Supervisory officers, use of information technology with a view to reducing the interface with the public, posting officers of integrity and efficiency in vigilance organizations, not giving sensitive postings to officers of doubtful integrity, keeping watch on the life-style of officers, drawing up of agreed lists in consultation with CBI/other agencies, etc.

(b) Adequate provision for punishment already exists in the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 and CCS (Conduct Rules, 1964, read with Prevention of Corruption Act. As regards rewards, there is a scheme for grant of rewards to officers upto the level of Additional Commissioner in the Income Tax Department, and upto the level of Deputy Commissioner in the Customs and Central Excise Department.

(c) The officers of the Indian Customs and Central Excise Service and the Indian Revenue Service, who are facing corruption charges, are generally transferred and posted to non-sensitive charges and are also not selected for deputation postings and for trainings.

(d) In the Income Tax Department, officers upto the rank of Additional Commissioner are already entitled to rewards. There is no proposal to grant

rewards to officers senior to Additional Commissioner. Similarly, there is no proposal for grant of rewards to officials senior to Deputy Commissioner in the Customs and Central Excise Department.

Pakistani currency note in Nasik Press

†4303. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a Pakistani ten rupee currency note was found during the search from an employee working in a currency press located at Nasik Road in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the investigation has been initiated in the said case; if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Pakistani ten rupee currency note was seized from Shri A. Y. Sheikh during the general check of employees conducted by Currency Note Press, Nasik.

(c) Police Department conducted an independent inquiry and concluded that collection of foreign currencies is the hobby of Sh. Sheikh.

Special insurance scheme for Gujarat

†4304. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that people living in several parts of Gujarat are feeling the tremors of earthquake even today which hit Gujarat last year;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to formulate any special insurance scheme for the people residing there, whose lives and property etc. got totally destroyed due to such earthquakes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.